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December 4, 2003

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

RE: Site Inspection, H&H Stone, Holley Project, S/037/117, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 7, 2003
Time of Inspection: 3:55 to 4:30 p.m.
Conditions: Partly Cloudy, 60's
Participants: Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

There was no specific purpose for the inspection. I was in the area to look at the Calliham Mine and decided to stop in.

Getting to the site:

Directions to the site are given in the report for an inspection done last May.

Observations:

I found 15 hydraulic oil buckets (Photo 1), but only four of them contained any oil. There was also a 55-gallon drum that had some liquid I assume to be oil.

There were several pop bottles and cans, potato chip cans, and other trash lying around.

The site is basically at the bottom of an ephemeral drainage, and there was evidence of recent flow through the quarry. Where the main drainage enters the site on the southwest, rock—probably waste rock—had been placed in what amounts to a berm (Photo 3). Water ponded behind this berm (Photo 4) and appeared to have topped it without washing it out.

A fair amount of soil/overburden has been salvaged, but nearly all the vegetation on the stockpiles is Russian thistle and other weeds.

Overviews of the site are shown in Photos 2 and 5. Photo 5 is a composite of four photos giving a panorama view.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The trash needs to be cleaned up. Empty containers should be removed unless they will be reused, and anything remaining should be stored neatly.

In the report for the previous inspection, I suggested that straw bales or silt fences should be installed in the drainage downstream from the quarry. Although the operator has not done this, I still suggest it.

The waste rock berm above the quarry served as a settling pond for sediment in the runoff from off site areas above the quarry. Undesigned ponds can fail and cause additional sedimentation, but the probability of failure appears to be small. Even if it was to fail, there would not be much additional sediment added to the water, and as long as the berm is present, it reduces the amount of sediment in the runoff.

PBB:jb
cc: John Blake, SITLA
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ATTACHMENT
Photographs
S/037/117, Holley Project, H&H Stone
Inspection Dated: October 7, 2003; Report Dated: December 4, 2003

Photo 1. Some of the oil containers and trash at the base of an overburden or soil pile.

Photo 2. An overview of part of the site looking approximately south.

Photo 3. Waste rock berm or dam in the drainage at the southwest part of the quarry.

Photo 4. Debris that was caught behind the berm shown in Photo 3.

Photo 5. Composite photo showing much of the quarry.